

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1039

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 4951

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ENGR, GT

SUBJECT: PETROLEUM SERVICE CONTRACTS

REF: GUATEMALA A-61, 3/20/73

1. STILL EXIST INTERNAL PROBLEMS IN GOG REGARDING DRAFT AGREEMENT ON HOW PETROLEUM EXPLORATION IN GUATEMALA WILL BE CARRIED OUT. GOG NOW INTO FOURTH DRAFT WHICH WRITTEN UNDER AUSPICES OF BUREAU OF MINES AND HYDROCARBON DIRECTOR JORGE GODOY. THIS DRAFT DISCUSSED WITH LAWYERS OF THE US FIRMS, TRANS WORLD PETROLEUM AND PATRICK PETROLEUM.

2. FIRST DRAFT ALSO WORK OF GODOY'S STAFF. SECOND WAS WORK OF LAWYER'S COMMISSION MENTIONED IN REPAIR. THIRD DONE BY MINISTERIO PUBLICO. FYI. COPIES OF ALL FOUR DRAFTS BEING AIR POUCHED.

3. FOLLOWING FIRMS, ALL US, SUBMITTED SERVICE CONTRACT OFFERS TO GOG: OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM, PATRICK PETROLEUM, TRANS WORLD PETROLEUM CO., OCEANIC EXPLORATION, TEXAS CRUDE OIL AND CALSBERG PETROLEUM CO.

4. GODOY ENGAGED IN BATTLE WITH ECON MINISTER MOLINA TO IMPLEMENT SERVICE CONTRACT ARRANGEMENT, WHICH REQUIRES AMENDING GUATEMALAN PETROLEUM CODE. TO FORCE GOG ACTION GODOY HAS GONE OVER MOLINA'S HEAD TO PRESI-
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DENT IN EFFORT HAVE HIS DRAFT IMPLEMENTED.

5. GODOY BELIEVES LAWYER'S COMMISSION DRAFT IS UNWORKABLE;
AS IT UNACCEPTABLE TO PETROLEUM COMPANIES (FYI THIS CONFIRMED TO
EMBOFF BY OCCIDENTAL AND MARATHON PETROLEUM COS. OFFICIALS);
THAT EACH SERVICE CONTRAC FOR PETEN AREA SHOULD BE UNIQUE AND
RELATE TO NATURE OF AREA TO BE EXPLORED; AND THAT CONTRACT
MUST BE EQUITABLE.

6. ACTION REQUEST: GODOY HAS REQUESTED EMBASSY
ASSISTANCE IN HAVING DEPARTMENT OR OTHER QUALIFIED GROUP REVIEW
BUREAU'S LATEST DRAFT. HE REQUESTS FRANK EVALUATION OF MERITS
THIS DRAFT. IF DEPARTMENT FEELS IT UNACCEPTABLE TO US PETROLEUM
COMPANIES, GODOY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ALTERNATIVE EQUITABLE
DRAFT. HE DESIRES RECEIVE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS IF POSSIBLE BY
MID-NOVEMBER, BUT IN ANY CASE NO LATER THAN END OF NOVEMBER.
DECONTROL AFTER 10/12/74
DREYFUSS

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